

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventor(s): Shinya ABE

Art Unit: 2612

Application No.: 09/711,905

Filed: November 15, 2000

For: JUL 25 2003

FOCUSING METHOD, METHOD OF DETECTING FOCAL POINT
DEVIATION, METHOD OF FORMING MASTER OF DATA STORAGE
MEDIUM, FOCUSING CONTROL UNIT, UNIT FOR DETECTING FOCAL
POINT DEVIATION, AND UNIT FOR FORMING MASTER OF DATA
STORAGE MEDIUM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

JUL 28 2003

Technology Center 2600

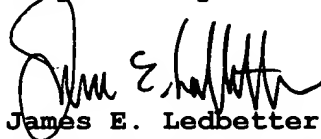
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the art listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. All of these references were cited in a Japanese Office Action dated June 15, 2003.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: July 25, 2003

JEL/apg

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